

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF DR. SUDIP BOSE

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Sudip Bose for his service to our country and our nation's veterans. On the afternoon of March 2, 2004, al-Qaeda insurgents launched coordinated attacks on innocent civilians who were observing the Muslim holiday, the Day of Ashura. These bombings killed over 178 and injured another 500 people. Dr. Bose, a Captain in the United States Army deployed in Baghdad at the time, was serving as the only emergency physician at the scene of the massacre. Captain Bose and his team of medics from the First Cavalry Division provided immediate medical attention to the injured while simultaneously under attack from the chaotic crowd. For his actions that day, Dr. Bose was awarded the Combat Medical Badge.

Dr. Bose went on to serve one of the longest continuous combat tours by a military physician since World War II. During this tour, he saved countless lives, was selected as the physician to treat Saddam Hussein following his capture, and served as a shining example to his peers. For these efforts, Dr. Bose was awarded the Bronze Star and promoted to the rank of Major.

After his time in the Army, Dr. Bose continued serving his country by establishing The Battle Continues, a nonprofit that advocates and mobilizes resources for military veterans. Through The Battle Continues, Dr. Bose has used his experiences and knowledge to educate the public on the medical struggles veterans face when coming home. In addition, this organization assists in connecting veterans with physicians that can best address their specific medical needs at no cost to the veteran.

Looking ahead, Dr. Bose wants to continue to be a strong advocate for public health and veterans issues. Though March 2, 2004 was a tragic day, I am honored to recognize the anniversary of the actions of Dr. Bose and his team. I thank him for his service to our country.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH DIGENOVA

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend and neighbor, the Honorable Joseph DiGenova.

Delaware, Ohio Councilman Joseph DiGenova has dedicated his life to quietly, but profoundly, serving his nation and community. As a young man, he answered his nation's

call, risking life and limb in service during the Vietnam War. Upon completing his military commitment, Joe returned home and devoted the next several decades to advocating for youth, veterans, local schools, and countless civic projects.

For decades, he and his beloved wife, Vonie, invested themselves in their local school district, creating new programs and fighting for improved facilities. Of special note, Joe co-founded a Youth-in-Government program that has introduced students to local and state governance for more than twenty years. Further, they have campaigned actively for land acquisitions, levy and bond issues, and athletics boosters. As a result of his unwavering support for local schools and students, Joe received the 2014 Friend of the District Award from the Delaware City Schools.

Knowing the value and challenges of military service firsthand, Joe selflessly sought new ways for central Ohio to honor its truest patriots. He led the charge toward a permanent veteran memorial to recognize veterans from every era of our history. In addition, he partnered with the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Vietnam Veterans Association to help fellow veterans receive the recognition, care and benefits they so richly deserve.

Joe's tireless work ethic and humble attitude garnered him the highest admiration of his neighbors. They saw fit to elect him to public office repeatedly for more than twenty-five years. As a city Councilman in Delaware, he spearheaded efforts to modernize infrastructure and spur the local economy. The resurgence of a vibrant downtown area is in no small measure a reflection of his dedication to making Delaware a great place to live, work and raise a family.

Joe has long maintained an eye on what the future will bring to Delaware. Today, Joe and Vonie can look fondly on all he has accomplished. I am confident that his impact will be lasting and his efforts cherished for generations to come.

I am deeply proud to recognize my dear friend and fellow Italian-American for his lasting friendship and innumerable contributions to central Ohio. It is with great pride that today I recognize, on behalf of the residents of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, the Honorable Joseph DiGenova.

HONORING OFFICER MICHAEL JOYCE, JR. UPON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 27 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNION POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Police Officer Michael Joyce, Jr. on his retirement

after 27 years of service to the Union Police Department on January 4, 2017.

Officer Joyce joined the Union Police Department in June 1989. He became a full-time officer by December of that year and was promoted to sergeant less than three years later. During his years on the force, Officer Joyce served as a field training officer, supervisor, bailiff, and City Hall security officer. Additionally, he has fulfilled a myriad of capacities including zoning enforcement, evidence cataloging/transport, video documentation, neighborhood watch, and scheduling among others. The knowledge and experience that Officer Joyce brought to the police force and the community was an invaluable asset.

Officer Joyce is known as a man of faith, integrity, compassion, and humor. As an active member of his community he has volunteered many hours to various organizations. He has served on the board of directors with the Franklin County Children and Families Community Resource Board, participated in Shop with a Cop, raised thousands of dollars for the Kops and Kids Canned Food Drive, and volunteered at Missouri Child Identification and Protection Program events. Officer Joyce also serves as an elder at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Throughout his life Officer Joyce has served as a role model and mentor to many, especially through his involvement with local schools, organizations, and clubs.

The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training program was created in part through Office Joyce's hard work. This program equips first responders with the necessary training to assist individuals that are dealing with mental health crises. Officer Joyce served as one of his department's first CIT officers and also held the position of Franklin County CIT Council Co-Chairman and CIT Training Chairman.

With this retirement Officer Joyce will now be able to spend more time with his lovely wife of 42 years, Jennifer. He will also enjoy more time with his children Hannah, Ethan, Noah, Warren, Faith, Connor, Moriah, and Naomi, as well as his nine grandchildren. As police officers and their families know, the most notable and award-worthy actions are often unseen by the general public and will never be awarded by anyone but God. Officer Joyce truly exemplifies the scripture that states, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." (Matthew 5:9)

I ask you to join me in recognizing Officer Michael Joyce, Number 731, on his retirement. The commitment he has shown to the Union Police Department and to his community for 27 years is a commendable accomplishment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, during the roll call votes on Wednesday, March 1, 2017, I

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

was absent due to my attendance and participation in a joint House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee to discuss the legislative priorities of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

Had I been present, on roll call number 115, I would have voted No.

On roll call number 116, I would have voted No.

HONORING COLONEL BENTLEY NETTLES

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Bentley Nettles, who is retiring after more than 30 years of service to our country in the United States Army.

Colonel Nettles served for 31 years as a commissioned officer in the United States Army, where he served peacekeeping tours of duty in Bosnia, and combat tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. In this capacity, Colonel Nettles served as Infantry Officer, Judge Advocate Officer, Information Operations Officer and Red Team Leader. He also served for 28 years in the Texas Army National Guard, where he was activated for support operations in response to hurricanes, wildfires, floods, and border security.

Over his military career, Colonel Nettles has been awarded 24 awards and badges. Such recognition includes: three Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart, and the Combat Action Badge. In keeping with the spirit of the Warrior Ethos, he was awarded the Combat Action Badge, which provides special recognition to Soldiers who personally engage the enemy, or are engaged by the enemy during combat operations. Colonel Nettles has also been awarded the Legion of Merit, one of the United States Military's most prestigious awards. The medal is awarded for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation's history is grounded in the efforts of our men and women who have served in uniform. We must continue to honor them after they have left the armed services by making sure that they have the access they need to educational, health, and career services. Colonel Nettles truly believes this; and so in 2014 I awarded Colonel Nettles the TX-17 Congressional Veterans Commendation. He received this recognition because beyond the medals and the stars, the pins and the ribbons, Colonel Nettles understands the meaning of giving back. He is a founding member and active supporter of the local Wounded Warriors chapter, which has raised tens of thousands of dollars to support our heroes wounded in the line of duty. He is also the Vice Chairman of Brazos Valley Cares, which works to provide financial support for veterans and their families.

I am also proud to call Colonel Nettles a fellow Former Student of Texas A&M University. He earned his bachelor's degree in business management and has embraced what it means to be an Aggie, especially the core values of excellence and selfless-service. In addition to his significant military service, Colonel Nettles has kept his ties to the university and

given back to the Aggie community. Through a large financial gift, he has helped ensure that Texas A&M maintains its global footprint and continues to influence students around the world.

Today, I have requested that a United States flag be flown over the United States Capitol to honor the many contributions of Colonel Bentley Nettles. As I close, I urge all Americans to continue praying for our country during these difficult times, for our military men and women who protect us from external threats, and for our first responders who protect us here at home.

HONORING THE COMMUNITY AM- BULANCE FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the COMM-Unity Ambulance. This volunteer ambulance service will be celebrating 30 years of service on March 18, 2017.

On April 27, 1987, COMM-Unity Ambulance began meeting the needs of residents of Cole, Osage, Miller, and Maries counties. This non-profit organization was originally dispatched from the Saint Elizabeth Care Center with a team of four nurses, four EMT's, and dedicated first responders who were committed to serving their community. The Meta Fire Department housed this organization prior to the completion of its building on May 19, 1988. By October 9, 1989, the volunteer ambulance service had grown to 16 EMT's, four nurses, and 19 first responders. In 1994, a necessary expansion to the building was completed and included a second ambulance bay, meeting/training room, and office.

I ask you to join me in recognizing the COMM-Unity Ambulance and their 30 years of dedicated service to the communities of Cole, Osage, Miller, and Maries counties. The commitment they have shown to the individuals in the counties they serve is a commendable accomplishment.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF CECIL BOSWELL, WWII VETERAN

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the impressive and meaningful life of Cecil Boswell, a World War II Veteran from Gainesville, Georgia who sadly passed away on Sunday, February 19th at the age of 99.

Cecil has long been a resident of Gainesville, and will forever be remembered as a hero by his neighbors, his friends, and all those who looked up to him in our corner of Georgia. Having been part of the second wave invading Normandy on D-Day, Cecil exemplified the bravery, courage, and selflessness it takes to serve one's country, and these traits followed him throughout his life, allowing him

to touch the lives of all those who had the opportunity to sit and speak with him.

Northeast Georgia is home to thousands of men and women who have diligently and passionately served the United States. As a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, I feel strongly about our nation's need to meet its obligations to our service members, veterans, and their families, and to support the Americans who have sacrificed much for our freedom and way of life. I am proud of the relationship northeast Georgia has with our nation's bravest citizens, and Cecil Boswell was an important member of the veteran community back home, as well as the Gainesville community as a whole.

He often told of his time fighting in World War II to his friends at the Big Bear Cafe, where he ate breakfast and lunch almost daily. Cecil also walked in each Memorial Day parade along the square, donning his Army uniform as he waved to the crowds. It wasn't until last year's Memorial Day parade that he decided to ride in a car instead of walk, a testament to his unwavering strength and dedication.

Gainesville is better for the time Cecil Boswell gave it, and I am sure the life he led and the stories he told will live on for years to come. Northeast Georgia is blessed to have known Cecil Boswell, and he will be dearly missed.

HONORING STACEY BRESSLER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stacey Bressler, whom the St. Helena Chamber of Commerce has named the 2017 Citizen of the Year. This award recognizes individuals in our community who foster community spirit through their volunteer efforts, and Ms. Bressler exemplifies this mission.

Ms. Bressler is involved in the leadership and day-to-day work of many of our community organizations. Before moving to St. Helena in 1999, Ms. Bressler earned a B.A. in Graphic Design and an M.S. in Library Science. She worked for twenty years in high technology sales and marketing as the Vice President of Business Development for CommerceNet, as well as in sales and marketing positions with Hewlett-Packard, NeXT and Apple Computer, Inc. Ms. Bressler now uses her management and logistics talents in running Bressler Vineyards and serving important community organizations.

Ms. Bressler serves on the Board of Directors for the St. Helena Farmers Market, where she educates community members on the health benefits of eating locally-grown food and donates produce to the St. Helena Food Bank. She also sits on the Board of the St. Helena Hospital Foundation where she raises funds to provide high-quality medical care to those in need. Through her service on the Board of Directors for Planned Parenthood Shasta, Ms. Bressler helps provide necessary and caring services to women and families. Ms. Bressler is also the current President of the Board of Directors for Friends of the Cameo Cinema, which maintains and preserves one of the oldest continuously running single-screen theaters in America.